



# MINUTES

## TRANSPORTATION INTERIM COMMITTEE

Wednesday, October 16, 2019 | 1:15 p.m. | 210 Senate Building

### Members Present:

Sen. Wayne A. Harper, Chair  
Rep. Kay J. Christofferson, Chair  
Sen. David G. Buxton  
Sen. Karen Mayne  
Sen. Ronald Winterton  
Rep. Kyle R. Andersen  
Rep. Melissa G. Ballard  
Rep. Walt Brooks  
Rep. Steve R. Christiansen  
Rep. Dan N. Johnson  
Rep. Marsha Judkins  
Rep. Karen Kwan  
Rep. Adam Robertson

Rep. Lawanna Shurtliff  
Rep. Raymond P. Ward  
Rep. Elizabeth Weight

### Members Absent:

President J. Stuart Adams  
Rep. Merrill F. Nelson

### Staff Present:

Mr. Art L. Hunsaker, Policy Analyst  
Mr. Ryan M. Hunter, Policy Analyst  
Mr. Kurt P. Gasser, Associate General Counsel  
Mr. Gus Harb, Associate General Counsel  
Ms. Cherish Cosman, Administrative Assistant

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at [www.le.utah.gov](http://www.le.utah.gov).

Chair Christofferson called the meeting to order at 1:50 p.m.

## 1 . Committee Business

**MOTION:** Sen. Winterton moved to approve the minutes. The motion passed with a vote of 9 - 0 - 9.

### Yeas-9

Rep. K. Andersen  
Rep. M. Ballard  
Sen. D. Buxton  
Rep. K. Christofferson  
Rep. M. Judkins  
Rep. K. Kwan  
Rep. L. Shurtliff  
Rep. E. Weight  
Sen. R. Winterton

### Nays-0

### Absent-9

Sen. J. Adams  
Rep. W. Brooks  
Rep. S. Christiansen  
Sen. W. Harper  
Rep. D. Johnson  
Sen. K. Mayne  
Rep. M. Nelson  
Rep. A. Robertson  
Rep. R. Ward

## 2 . Utah Transit Authority Governance Status

### 2A - State Entity Reporting

John Dougall, State Auditor, and Ron Gordon, General Counsel, Office of the Governor, presented an overview of changes to how the Utah Transit Authority (UTA) is governed under 2018 General Session S.B. 136, "Transportation Governance Amendments", discussed the Governor's authority to appoint the UTA Board of Trustees, and answered committee questions.

John Reidhead, Director, Division of Finance, and John Dougall explained the changes UTA and other entities have experienced since the implementation of S.B. 136, "Transportation Governance Amendments", spoke to incorporating UTA in the State's financial statements and audits, and answered committee questions.

Carlton Christensen, Board Chair, UTA responded to committee questions and committee discussion continued.

John Dougall and John Reidhead continued explaining the concerns of UTA's status as a state entity or a local district in applying accounting standards and answered committee questions and committee discussion followed.

Ron Gordon responded to committee questions and committee discussion continued.

#### [2B - UTA Supporting Documents: Governance Status, UTA](#)

Mark Burns, Director, Highways and Utilities Division, Attorney General's Office, spoke as legal adviser to UTA presented background information on S.B. 136, "Transportation Governance Amendments" and further discussed UTA's status.

John Dougall reiterated the question of UTA's status in relation to the Legislature's intentions in S.B. 136.

### **3 . Report: Utah Transit Authority Retirement Benefits**

#### [3A - Retirement Benefits Report, UTA](#)

#### [3B - Retirement Study Presentation, UTA](#)

Carlton Christensen, Trish Winchell, Legal Analysis Consultant, Thompson Coburn LLP, and Eric Atwater, Analyst, Aon, and David Kuhn, Actuary, Aon, presented background information and an overview of the pension plan and retirement system at UTA, explained challenges to the plan, and responded to committee questions.

### **4 . Draft legislation, "Joint Resolution Recognizing School Bus Drivers"**

#### [4 - 2020 General Session Draft Resolution, "Joint Resolution Recognizing School Bus Drivers" \(2020FL0074-002\)](#)

Rep. Weight presented background information on the draft legislation "Joint Resolution Recognizing School Bus Drivers" (2020FL-0074-002), requested it be made a committee bill, and responded to questions from the committee.

**MOTION:** Rep. Kwan moved to amend the draft legislation "Joint Resolution Recognizing School Bus Drivers" as follows: on line 23, after "school buses are", insert "statistically among". Rep. Weight requested that the motion insert only the word "statistically" and Rep. Kwan consented to modify her motion accordingly. committee discussion continued. The motion passed with a vote of 16 - 0 - 2.

#### Yeas-16

Rep. K. Andersen  
Rep. M. Ballard  
Rep. W. Brooks  
Sen. D. Buxton  
Rep. S. Christiansen  
Rep. K. Christofferson  
Sen. W. Harper  
Rep. D. Johnson  
Rep. M. Judkins  
Rep. K. Kwan  
Sen. K. Mayne  
Rep. A. Robertson  
Rep. L. Shurtliff  
Rep. R. Ward  
Rep. E. Weight  
Sen. R. Winterton

#### Nays-0

#### Absent-2

Sen. J. Adams  
Rep. M. Nelson

**MOTION:** Rep. Kwan moved to pass the draft legislation "Join Resolution Recognizing School Bus Drivers" as a committee bill as amended with a favorable recommendation and committee discussion continued. The motion passed with a vote of 16 - 0 - 2.

**Yeas-16**

Rep. K. Andersen  
Rep. M. Ballard  
Rep. W. Brooks  
Sen. D. Buxton  
Rep. S. Christiansen  
Rep. K. Christofferson  
Sen. W. Harper  
Rep. D. Johnson  
Rep. M. Judkins  
Rep. K. Kwan  
Sen. K. Mayne  
Rep. A. Robertson  
Rep. L. Shurtliff  
Rep. R. Ward  
Rep. E. Weight  
Sen. R. Winterton

**Nays-0****Absent-2**

Sen. J. Adams  
Rep. M. Nelson

**5 . C Decals for HOV Lane Use**

Rep. Ward provided background on the C Decal program.

Jason Davis, Deputy Director of Engineering and Operations, Utah Department Of Transportation (UDOT), explained the background information on C Decals, updated the committee on changes made to the system at the federal level, and answered committee questions.

**6 . Urban Air Mobility****[6 - Urban Air Mobility, UDOT](#)**

Jason Davis, and Jared Esselman, Director of Aeronautics, UDOT, presented an update on drone delivery technology, statutory requirements, and funding of the program and responded to questions from the committee with committee discussion following.

Commissioner Shawn Milne, Chairman, Deseret Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS), gave an overview of Deseret UAS and its objectives, spoke in favor of the drone delivery program, and responded to committee questions.

**7 . Update: Autonomous Vehicles****[7 - Autonomous Shuttle Legislative Update](#)**

Jason Davis updated the committee on safety features of autonomous vehicle technology and responded to committee questions.

Chair Christofferson adjourned the meeting at 3:43 p.m.